RESOLUTION NO. 10 OF 2012

Whereas, the Centre County Conservation District has diligently worked for many years to provide technical and financial assistance to agricultural landowners, having earned the trust and respect of the agricultural community and being viewed as a valuable resource of the agricultural community, and

Whereas, the proposed Model County Conservation District Agricultural Complaint Response Policy (Model Policy) requires County Conservation Districts to follow extensive and abrasive procedures with a strong enforcement role, such as completing a lengthy environmental investigation form, reporting to DEP immediately, and coordinating with DEP to identify follow up actions, and

Whereas, the Centre County Conservation District does not want to jeopardize the longstanding working relationship with our agricultural community, and strongly desires to continue our current agricultural complaint policies and procedures, encompassing many different program obligations, that maintains this working relationship with the agricultural community as well as the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) when referral actions and project assistance to DEP is necessary, and

Whereas, the Centre County Conservation District, in providing this valued service to the agricultural community while implementing the current County procedures, has a proven record, well over 30 years, of achieving compliance with agricultural complaints before referrals to DEP are necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners opposes the Model Policy as proposed by DEP.

Adopted this 14th day of August 2012.

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steven G. Dershem, Chairman

C. Chris Exarchos, Commissioner

Michael Pipe, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Timothy T. Boyde

Director of Administrative Services